

Economic Development Committee

Draft Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2009

Present: Art Siciliano, George Malette, Heleen Kurk

Absent: Liz McSweeney

Recording Secretary: Heleen Kurk

Guests: Heather Aleksonis

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Vice Chairman, Art Siciliano appointed George Malette to sit in as a full member for the meeting.

George moved, Art seconded to accept the minutes of November 18, 2008 as written. All were in favor.

Art will approach the Weare Area Chamber of Commerce to see if they would be interested in covering the cost of the Welcome to Weare sign entering Weare from Goffstown. Art will get two estimates of cost to present to them. The Chamber should expect to be able to have an insignia indicating that they donated the sign.

Heather Aleksonis introduced herself and said that she was interested in joining the Economic Development Committee. She is the owner of Hollyhock Flowers in the center of Weare. She is a member of the Weare Area Chamber of Commerce and feels that she can be one of the sets of eyes and ears of the community since she is a visible business in town. She was welcomed by the committee and filled out an application to volunteer form.

Art brought up that we should have an events inventory to help business become more visible, as well as a way to encourage tourism. Heather has organized a made in New Hampshire event

and is planning another event on November 28, 2009 focusing perhaps more on Weare businesses.

The committee discussed ways to identify businesses on the tax map and Art suggested doing it on a computerized map rather than a hard copy map. He will look into being able to do that.

The committee again looked at a list of potential business land available.

In discussing recognizing and appreciating the heritage of Weare George spoke about the connection between the Heritage Commission's mission statement and what the Economic Committee can do to help economic growth. The Economic Development Committee should be involved in promoting the Scenic By Way that runs from Goffstown through New Boston through Weare on Rts. 114 and 77 to Dunbarton and back to Goffstown. In a way to promote the Chamber businesses there should be a link on our WEB site to the Chamber.

At the next meeting members should be ready to renew the discussion of goals for 2009/2010 as well as be able to prioritize them.

It is hoped that the Board of Selectmen will appoint Heather to the Economic Development Committee ASAP.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. The next meeting of the Economic Development Committee will be Tuesday, March 17, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Heleen Kurk

